HEDYOTIS AUSTRALIS IN GEORGIA

KENTON L. CHAMBERS

The recently completed merger of *Houstonia* with *Hedyotis* (W. H. Lewis, Rhodora 63: 216-223, 1961, and other authors) provides yet another epithet for the hapless Small Bluet whose name is confused among *Houstonia patens* Ell., *H. minima* Beck, and *H. pusilla* Schoepf in the two principal manuals of the northeastern flora. In *Hedyotis,* the species must be called *H. crassifolia* Raf., and current opinion favors the placement of all three of the above names in synonymy (see, for example, L. H. Shinners, Field & Lab. 18: 100, 1950, and Spring Flora of the Dallas-Fort Worth Area, 359-360, 1958).

On March 23, 1963, I found *Hedyotis crassifolia* growing on grassy roadsides in Ocmulgee National Monument, Macon, Georgia, and with it an "obviously different" species

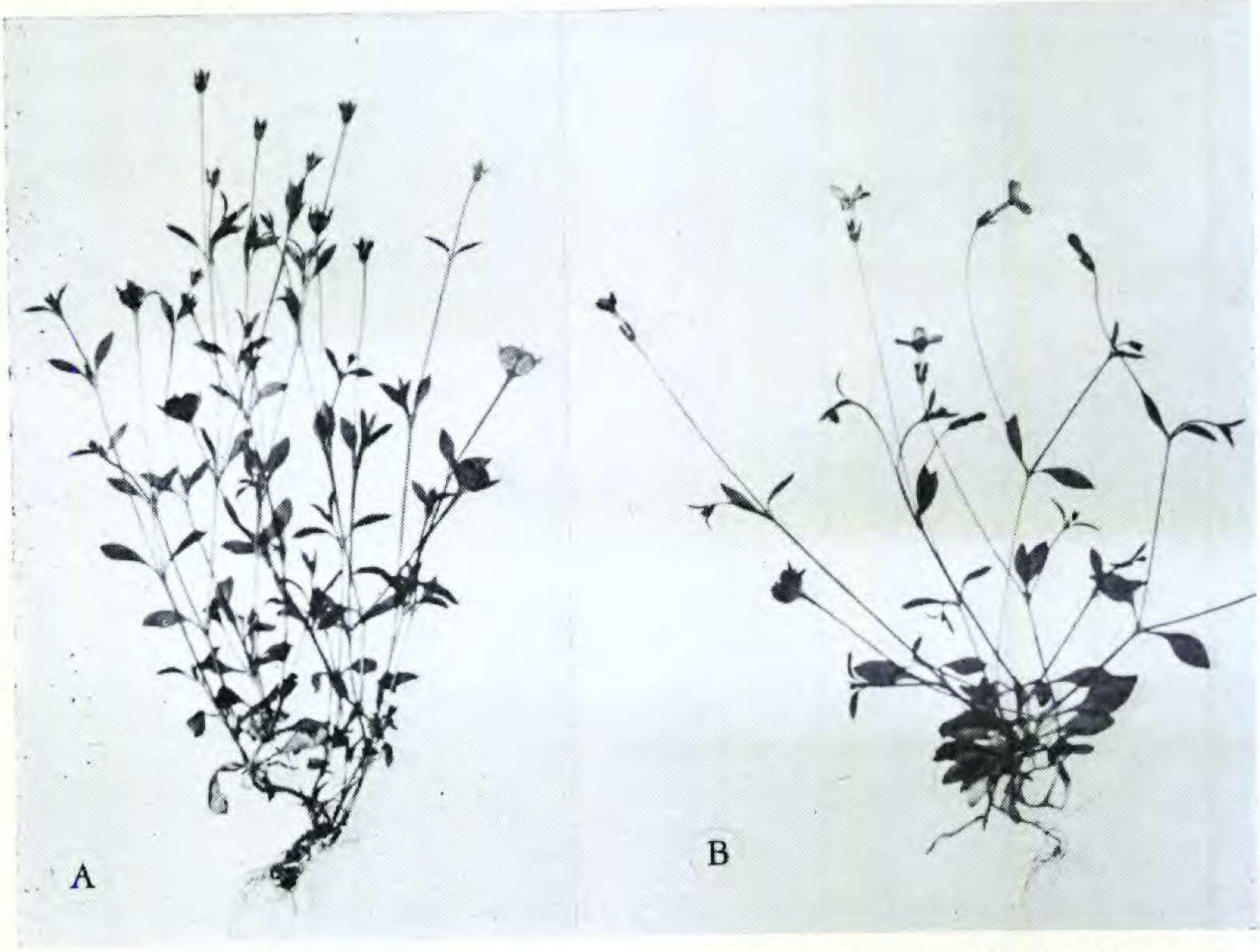

Figure 1. A. *Hedyotis australis* Lewis & Moore *(K. L. Chambers 1973)*; B. *Hedyotis crassifolia* Raf. *(K. L. Chambers 1974)*; both × 2/3.

Plate 1287

having much smaller, white corollas and a distinctive growth form (fig. 1). The white-flowered species is *Hedyotis australis* Lewis & Moore (Southwestern Naturalist **3**: 208-211, 1959) based on *H. crassifolia* var. *micrantha* Shinners. The chromosome numbers of *H. crassifolia* and *H. australis* have been reported to be 2n = 16 and 2n = 32, respectively (W. H. Lewis, Amer. Journ. Bot. **49**: 855-865, 1962) ; and Lewis and Moore (op. cit.) report five distinctive characteristics by which the two species can be distinguished. A clear morphological hiatus was observed between the two populations growing intermingled at Macon, which supports the assumption by Lewis and Moore that a barrier to crossability exists. In view of the intraspecific polyploidy reported in *Hedyotis caerulea* (L.) Hook. (W. H. Lewis and E. E. Terrell, Rhodora **64**: 313-323, 1962) and other species, one might not wish to predict that *H. australis* and *H. crassifolia* will be found to differ consistently in chromosome number throughout their area of geographical overlap. However, an additional barrier to interbreeding is provided by the predominant self-fertilization which must occur in these species, both of which have monomorphic flowers with the stigma closely surrounded by the anthers. *Hedyotis australis* is said by Lewis (op. cit., 1962) to be the most highly evolved species in subgenus *Edrisia* (= *Houstonia*) ; in the specimens from Georgia the corolla-tube is only 1.3 mm. long, about 2/3 the length of the sepals, and the anthers are inserted 0.3 mm. from the base of the tube. In habit, the plants differ from *H. crassifolia* in their less divaricate branching, their erect rather than nodding floral buds, and their well distributed cauline leaves.

The Ocmulgee population of *H. australis* represents a disjunction three states eastward from the range reported for the species by Lewis and Moore (Louisiana to Arkansas and Texas). However, as the plant becomes familiar to collectors, it will probably be found through the intervening area. Collection data for this report are as follows: *K. L. Chambers 1973;* grassy roadside flat, 100 yards east of the Great Temple Mound, Ocmulgee National Monument, Bibb

County, Georgia; associated species, *Krigia oppositifolia* Raf., *Viola rafinesquii* Greene, *Phacelia dubia* (L.) Trel. Specimens are to be deposited at the herbaria of Oregon State University, Southern Methodist University, and Harvard University.

DEPARTMENT OF BOTANY, OREGON STATE UNIVERSITY, CORVALLIS.

DROSERA FILIFORMIS IN CONNECTICUT. — In a dry bog in the state leased area "Latimer Brook" just east of Route #161 in East Lyme, in a space of approximately 500 square feet grow at least seventy-five plants of *Drosera filiformis* Raf. Among the sundews are *Drosera intermedia, Vaccinium macrocarpon*, a *Rubus* of the type *hispidus* and the moss, *Polytrichum commune* in two comparatively bare spots in contrast to the grassy or shrubby cover of most of the bog. Other plants in the immediate vicinity are *Iris prismatica, Myrica gale, Kalmia angustifolia, Calopogon pulchellus, Chamaedaphne calyculata* var *angustifolia, Gaultheria procumbens* and *Vaccinium angustifolium* var. *laevifolium.*

On June 23, 1963, the Connecticut Botanical Society held one of its field trips at this site and at least 40 people saw the plants. At this meeting two plants were taken and transferred to the eastern part of Guilford, Conn. in a bog where it is hoped they may persist for some time.

Mr. J. J. Neale reports that there is a sheet of this species in the herbarium of the Connecticut Botanical Society, from the collection of Anna E. Carpenter, labelled "July 29, 1905, South Glastonbury, Mrs. F. W. Starmer". Connecticut botanists who have seen this specimen have thought it unlikely to have been native there. Though South Glastonbury is some thirty miles northwest of East Lyme, this alleged record now perhaps appears a little less improbable.

Specimens have been deposited in the Gray Herbarium and the herbaria of the New England Botanical Club, the Connecticut Botanical Society, and the University of Connecticut. — WILLIAM R. LINKE JR., NEW LONDON.